- \$14.5 Million in Unclaimed Tax Refunds Owed to New Yorkers -

Washington, DC – U.S. Representative John Hall (D-NY19) today announced that 9,176 taxpayers in New York are owed refunds by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), totaling \$14.5 million. Congressman Hall urged Hudson Valley residents to check with the IRS or with one of Hall's New York offices to see if the IRS may owe them a tax refund.

"Thousands of middle class families may be eligible for a very easy tax break," said Hall. "And some extra money can come in handy especially at this time of year in the current economic climate."

Taxpayers can receive their money as soon as they update their address with the IRS. Hudson Valley taxpayers can see if their name is on the list of taxpayers owed money and find out how to claim their money by:

- Using the "Where's My Refund?" link <u>here</u>
- Calling Congressman Hall's office at (845) 225-3641 ext. 49371 or (845) 291-4100
- Accessing the telephone version of "Where's My Refund?" by calling 1-800-829-1954

In the State of New York, the average taxpayer with an unclaimed refund is owed over \$1,581 this year, compared to \$1,061 last year, according to the IRS.

A tax refund is usually withheld when the IRS or United States Postal Service does not have a taxpayer's current address on file. Tax refunds are deemed undeliverable and held by the IRS until it receives an updated address.

Recent economic stimulus programs played a role in boosting refunds, including the Recovery Rebate Credit and the First-Time Homebuyer's Credit, which Congressman Hall recently successfully fought to extend into 2010.

"I will continue my work in Congress on behalf of all families currently fighting to get ahead," said Hall. "Whether it's passing important tax reforms or pointing people in the direction of a potential refund on their income taxes, I remain committed to doing all that I can to deliver results and put more money back in the pockets of the taxpayer."

-30-